

**MINUTES OF THE
CALUMET COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION
April 21, 2021 (9:00 A.M.)**

Dave LaShay called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

1. The Meeting was properly announced and posted, and a quorum of members was present.

2. ROLL CALL (Committee Member Attendance):

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave LaShay, Bill Grube, Joe Mueller, and CVSO Greg Brittnacher

ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: None

3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by J. Mueller and SECONDED by B. Grube to approve the agenda for April 21, 2021. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (January 20, 2021 *meeting*)

MOTION by B. Grube and SECONDED by J. Mueller to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2021 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

7. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT – Given by CVSO G. Brittnacher:

- A. The VA has now made the Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs) public again for Veterans and their providers to use. This gives Veterans the option to use medical examiners outside the VA to provide medical opinions that support the Veterans VA claim for compensation benefits.
- B. Reminder that those Veterans who have one of the following: Department of Defense Identification Card (CAC Card), Veteran Health Identification Card (VAHIC), Veteran ID card, or Veterans designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card are entitled to free



entrance to any National park, wildlife refuge, and forest.

- C. The VA will be canceling and refunding copayments for all medical care received through the VA between April 6, 2020 and September 30, 2021. This also includes all prescription medication copayments received through that same time period.
- D. The VA travel pay is in the process of updating their system, which will remove the kiosk that Veterans use at VA Health Care facilities. The VA will be transitioning to an online platform for filing. Veteran will have to use <https://access.va.gov> to file online or file by paper using VA Form 10-3542.
- E. Veterans Service Office is in the process of updating the Veterans Service Office website. Greg will be including information about the VSC program on the website with the intent that it will encourage more Veterans to seek financial assistance during a hardship.

8. REPORTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS – Secretary Mueller commends Greg Brittnacher on a great job of getting out the local Veteran Service Organizations (VSO's) for their meeting. His American Legion Post 496 was happy that he was able to make it to the last meeting. Secretary Mueller is looking forward to the continuation of Greg's support in updating the VSO's on what is happening within the VA.

9. COMMUNICATIONS – Chairperson LaShay recommends that those VSO's who potentially are losing charters to transfer to another post or chapter. This way the funds raised will be able to transfer to the new post/chapter. If not, those funds raised from the community will go to National.

10. ITEMS FOR ACTION OR DISCUSSION

- A. Updated the committee that the VSC has provided one assistance request for a car repair since the last meeting.
- B. Discussed the generous donation of gas, grocery, and restaurant gift cards the VSC received from the American Legion Auxiliary of Chilton. The Veteran Service Office has been able to distribute some of cards to those Veterans in need.

11. DISCUSS NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has tentatively scheduled for July 21st, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9: 32 A.M., MOTION by D. LaShay and SECONDED by J. Mueller to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Greg Brittnacher, VSC Committee Member & Recording Secretary
APPROVED